

Message Text

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11

ACTION AID-20

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ADP-00 EUR-25 MC-02 DODE-00 NSC-10 ST-01

EB-11 IGA-02 EA-11 SS-14 L-03 PM-09 RSR-01 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 /131 W
----- 077780

R 311648 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6287
INFO AMEMBASSY MANAMA
COMIDEASTFOR
USINCEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUWAIT 0987

FROM QUINLAN MUSCAT

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MU MASS

SUBJECT: SUPLUS VIETNAM WAR MATERIAL FOR OMAN ARMED FORCES

REF: STATE 40573

1. DURING MEETING DEPOFF BUCK AND ME WITH DEFENSE SECRETARY
OLDMAN AND HIS NEW DEPUTY, BRIGADIER SEMPLE, I MENTIONED
POSSIBILITY THAT PURCHASE OF US SUPLUS MATERIAL FROM VIETNAM
MIGHT PROVIDE SUBSTANTIAL SAVING FOR ECONOMY- CONSCIOUS OMAN
DEFENSE MINISTRY. OLDMAN AND SEMPLE EXPRESSED STRONG
INTEREST AND SEMPLE SUGGESTED ALSO POSSIBILITY OF PURCHASING
SUCH ADVANCED EQUIPMENT AS GROUND SENSING EQUIPMENT WHICH
MIGHT BE USED IN INTERDICTING ENEMY SUPPLY LINES FROM SOUTH
YEMEN. (SEMPLE ATTENDED ARMED FORCES INDUSTRIAL STAFF COLLEGE
NORFOLK AND LATER SEVED 18 MONTHS AT FOR BELVOIR). IN MAIN,
HOWEVER, OMAN DEFENSE DEPT WOULD BE INTERESTED PROCURING BASIC
EQUIPMENT COMPATIBLE WITH EITHER PRESENT BRITISH- SUPPLIED
MATERIEL OR US ORIGIN EQUIPMENT WHICH MIGHT BE SUPPLIED IN
FUTURE BY SAUDI ARABIA.

2. OLDMAN AND SEMPLE AGREED REVIEW AREAS OF THEIR INTEREST
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AND SUBMIT LIST TO US, BUT CAUTIONED THAT TINY OMAN DEFENSE DEPT IS NOT STAFFED TO HANDLE PAPER WORK ON ANY SCALE AND WOULD NEED ADVICE AND ASSISTANCE IN DEALING WITH LARGE AND COMPLEX ORGANIZATION RESPONSIBLE FOR US SURPLUS MATERIEL IN VIETNAM.

3. PENDING RECEIPT OF OMANI SHOPPING LIST I HOPE DEPT WILL CONSIDER MEANS OF SIMPLIFYING USG REQUIREMENTS OR POSSIBLY PROVIDING EXPERT ADVISER (PREFERABLY CIVILIAN) TO VISIT MUSCAT, DISCUSS OMANI NEEDS, AND ASSIST IN FINDING WAYS AND MEANS OF ASSISTING OMANI PROCUREMENT OFFICERS.

4. AMBASSADOR'S COMMENT: I HOPE WE CAN BE HELPFUL TO OMAN GOVT TO ENABLE THEM TO OBTAIN BADLY NEEDED MILITARY ITEMS ECONOMICALLY. WOULD SEEM TO BE IMPORTANT TO USG INTEREST THAT WE MAKE THIS GESTURE.
STOLTZFUS

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*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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